

## I. Introduction

---

An area's transportation system is its lifeline, contributing to its economic prosperity and social well being. The importance of a safe and efficient transportation infrastructure cannot be overstressed. This system provides a means of transporting people and goods from one place to another quickly, conveniently, and safely. A well-planned system will meet the existing travel demands, as well as keep pace with the growth of the region. The City of Locust and the Town of Stanfield recognized the importance of this process of planning for future transportation needs and requested transportation planning assistance from the Transportation Planning Branch of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) in September, 2000.

The City of Locust and the Town of Stanfield (known throughout the document as the planning area) are located in the southwestern part of Stanly County and border Cabarrus County. The planning area is approximately twenty-five miles east of Charlotte and approximately fifteen miles southwest of Albermarle. The geographical location of the planning area is shown in **Figure 2**.

This report documents the development of the 2004 Locust and Stanfield Comprehensive Transportation Plan shown in **Figure 1**, which replaces the 1985 Locust Thoroughfare Plan shown in **Figure 3**. In addition, this report presents recommendations for each mode of transportation. A separate report documents the technical analysis completed for this study and is available upon request to the Transportation Planning Branch. A comprehensive transportation plan is developed to ensure that the transportation system will be progressively developed to meet the needs of the planning area. It will serve as an official guide to providing a well-coordinated, efficient, and economical transportation system that utilizes all modes of transportation. This document will be used by local officials to ensure that planned transportation facilities reflect the needs of the public, while minimizing the disruption to local residents, businesses, and the environment.

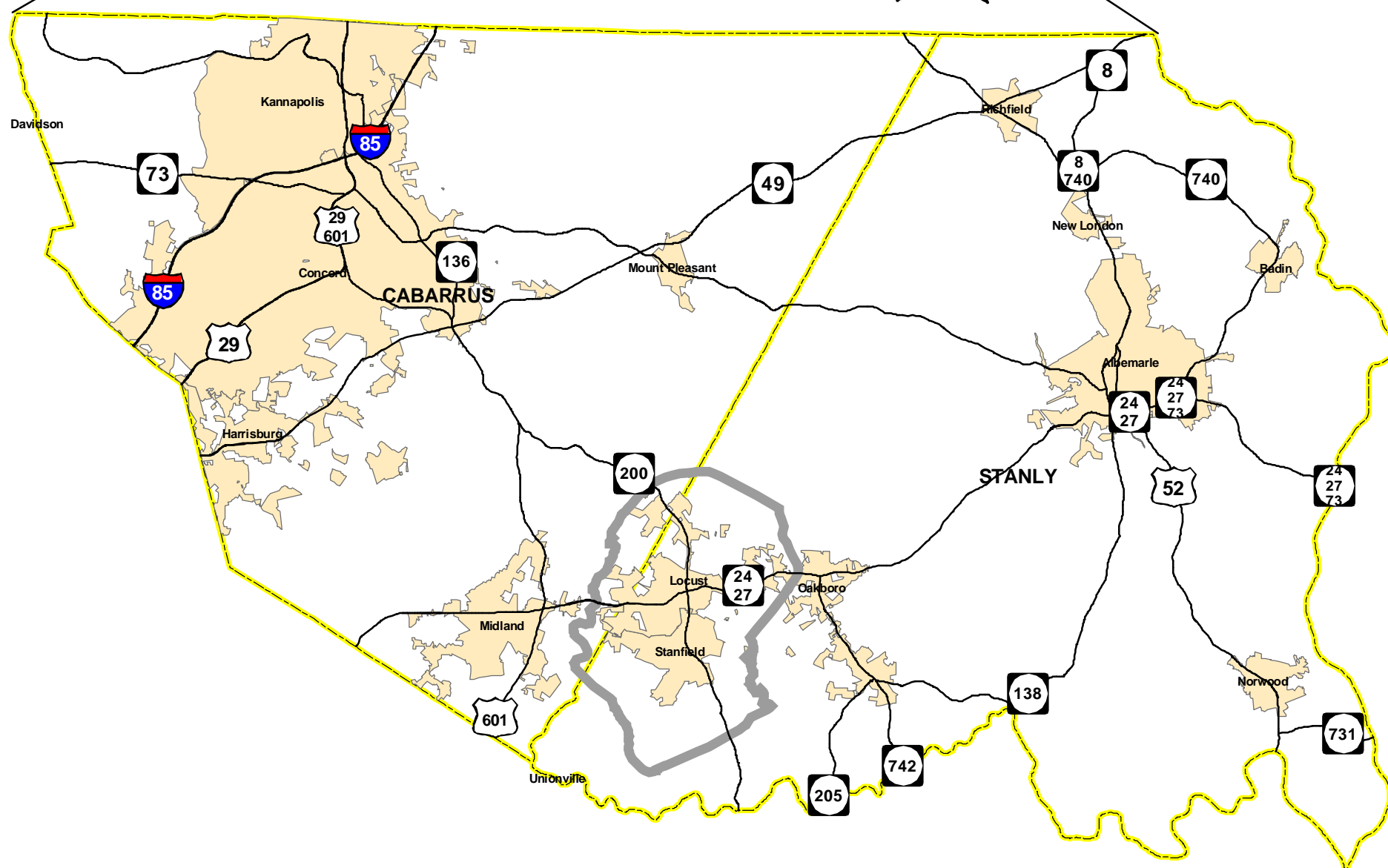
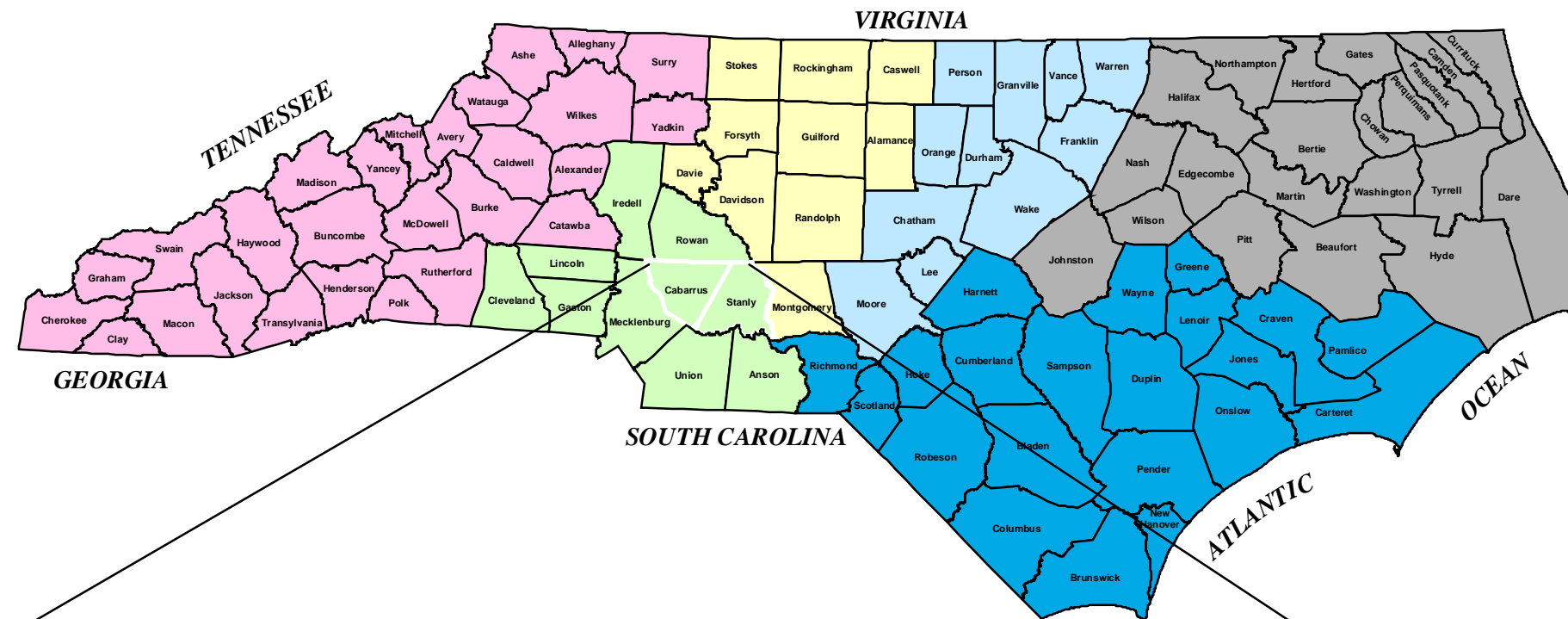
The purpose of this study is to examine present and future transportation needs of the planning area and to develop a revised Comprehensive Transportation Plan to meet these needs. The plan recommends those improvements that are necessary to provide an efficient transportation system within the 2004-2030 planning period. The recommended cross-sections outlined in **Appendix D** for these improvements are based on existing conditions and projected traffic volumes.

Initiative for implementing the Transportation Plan rests predominately with the policy boards and citizens of the planning area. The responsibility for proposed construction is shared by the City of Locust, the Town of Stanfield, and the North Carolina Department of Transportation. As transportation needs throughout the

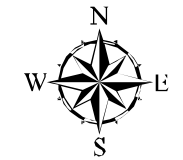
state exceed available funding, it is imperative that the local planning areas aggressively pursue funding for desired projects.

The proposed Comprehensive Transportation Plan is based on the projected growth for the planning area as coordinated with city and town planners. It is possible that actual growth patterns will differ from those logically anticipated. As a result, it may be necessary to accelerate or delay the development of some recommendations found on the plan. Some portions of the plan may require revisions in order to accommodate unexpected changes in urban development. Therefore, any changes made to one element of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan should be consistent with the other elements.





**FIGURE 2**  
**GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION**  
**MAP**



**LEGEND**

- ROADS
- MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY
- PLANNING BOUNDARY
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- PLANNING REGIONS
- METROLINA
- MOUNTAINS
- NORTHEAST
- SOUTHEAST
- TRIAD
- TRIANGLE

**CITY OF**  
**LOCUST**  
**AND**  
**TOWN OF**  
**STANFIELD**

**STANLY COUNTY**  
**NORTH CAROLINA**

PREPARED BY THE  
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BRANCH

IN COOPERATION WITH THE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

BASE MAP DATE: January 2003



# LOCUST THOROUGHFARE PLAN JAN 28, 1985

## LEGEND

CITY LIMITS  
MAJOR THOROUGHFARES  
MINOR THOROUGHFARES  
PROPOSED THOROUGHFARES

## ADOPTED BY:

TOWN OF LOCUST MARCH 1985  
RECOMMENDED APPROVAL  
PLANNING AND RESEARCH BRANCH MARCH 1985  
N.C. BOARD OF TRANSPORTATION JUNE 1985

PUBLIC HEARING

REVISIONS

TOWN OF LOCUST	PLANNING AND RESEARCH	N.C. Bd. OF TRANS.

